

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13

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FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3523

AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 2579

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EAIR WB UK US FR GW

SUBJ: ALLIED MEETING ON BERLIN CHARTERS LEAKED TO PRESS

REFS: A) USBERLIN 2531; B) BONN 20020; C) BONN 4260;

D) USBERLIN 2470

1. AT EMBASSY'S SUGGESTION WE HAVE CHECKED OUR DOCUMENT SECURITY PROCEDURES AT ALL POSSIBLE POINTS. WE ARE SATISFIED THAT RECENT LEAK TO PRESS DID NOT COME FROM US MISSION OR FROM OTHER US GOVERNMENT AGENCIES IN BERLIN.

2. IN ADDITION, DESPITE BRITISH CONTENTION TO THE CONTRARY, WE CANNOT CONFIRM THAT LEAK CAME FROM OTHER "AMERICAN SOURCE" (I.E., PAN AM). IN CASE OF MOST RECENT LEAK, MISSION OFFICER ASKED PAN AM MANAGER GALLAGHER WHERE HE THOUGHT IT CAME FROM. GALLAGHER SAID HE DIDN'T HAVE THE SLIGHTEST IDEA. NEVERTHELESS, PAN AM HAD HELD INFORMATION WHICH SUBSEQUENTLY LEAKED. FOR EXAMPLE, AS EMBASSY IS AWARE, BOTH CAA AND MISSION

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BERLIN AT CAA'S REQUEST, HAVE KEPT PAN AMERICAN BERLIN

INFORMED OF PROGRESS TOWARD CHARTER TALKS. AS RECENTLY AS NOVEMBER 23 WE GAVE PAN AM MANAGEMENT DATES FOR BONN TALKS. LEAK OCCURRED NOVEMBER 25.

3. AS REGARDS LEAK NOVEMBER 14 OF MAIN POINTS OF UK GOVERNMENT PAPER ON BERLIN-LONDON CHARTERS (REF D), MISSION HOLDS ONLY EMBASSY'S TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY OF THIS PAPER SENT IN MARCH AND ONE COPY OF PAPER GIVEN TO US BY PAN AM NOVEMBER 18. GALLAGHER HAS TOLD US THAT PAN AM BERLIN RECEIVED THROUGH ITS CHANNELS FROM ITS NEW YORK HEADQUARTERS A COPY OF THE UK PAPER OBTAINED FROM THE DEPARTMENT ABOUT A MONTH AGO. GALLAGHER SAID PAN AM BERLIN WAS ASKED TO CONTRIBUTE TO PAN AM'S RESPONSE TO DEPARTMENT'S REQUEST FOR COMMENT ON UK PAPER. IN ADDITION TO COPY OF BRITISH PAPER, HE HAS GIVEN US NEW YORK'S RESPONSE FORWARDED TO THE DEPARTMENT (STYLES) ON 9 NOVEMBER. WE ALSO KNOW THAT WITHIN THE PAN AM BERLIN ORGANIZATION SEVERAL OFFICERS WHO DEAL REGULARLY WITH THE PRESS ROUTINELY RECEIVE INFORMATION ON PA'S DEALINGS WITH USG. FOR EXAMPLE, PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER RECEIVED COPY OF UK PAPER AND PA COMMENTS THEREON.

4. COMMENT: WHILE CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE SUGGESTS THAT ELEMENTS OF PAN AM BERLIN MAY BE SOURCE OF LEAKS, WE WOULD BE RELUCTANT TO CUT PAN AM OFF FROM ESSENTIAL INFORMATION ON WHAT THE US GOVERNMENT IS DOING ON THEIR BEHALF. WE DOUBT AIRLINE DELIBERATELY LEAKING, RATHER WE SUSPECT THAT BERLIN'S ENTERPRISING NEWSPAPER REPORTERS, SUCH AS "TAGESSPIEGEL'S" VON PRYCHOWSKI, SIMPLY HAVE QUAFFED MANY A BEER OVER MANY YEARS WITH AIRLINE FRATERNITY AND HAVE MADE SOME, FOR US, MUCH TO CLOSE FRIENDSHIPS. GEORGE

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